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UQ Pipe Band win piping and drumming scholarships

18 October 2012

Three members of The University of Queensland Pipe Band at Emmanuel College (UQPBEC) have been awarded full scholarships to attend a summer school for piping and drumming in January 2013 in Melbourne.

The three scholarships are offered to a piper, snare drummer and a mid-section (bass and tenor) drummer and are inclusive of tuition fees, an accommodation and meals package and return airfare.

Pipe Major Andrew McCabe, Drum Sergeant David Spotswood and Quartermaster Jessica Logan from the UQ Pipe Band were awarded the scholarships.

The Qld Branch of the Pipe Band Association offer the scholarships for registered members of the association to allow Queensland band leaders the opportunity to enhance their skills in piping and drumming and to develop networks with pipe bands people from Australia and internationally.

The Australian Pipe Band Association Summer School will be led by top class overseas and Australian tutors from January 6-11, 2013.

Richard Parkes MBE (Piping) and Keith Orr (Drumming) will be the keynote tutors, who are the Pipe Major and Drum Sergeant of one of the leading and most successful pipe bands in the world today, the Field Marshall Montgomery Pipe Band from Northern Ireland.

Pipe Major Andrew McCabe said the scholarships are a fantastic opportunity and that it was an honour to be selected.

" This is a great chance for David, Jess and I to gain new skills and knowledge to bring back not only to the UQ Pipe Band but to other bands. We are also considering holding a regional workshop outside of Brisbane to be able to share what we' ve learnt," Pipe Major McCabe said.

The UQ Pipe Band is supported and continues to develop and thrive under the patronage of Emmanuel College Principal, Professor Stewart Gill.

Practice occurs every Tuesday night from 5-8.30pm at Emmanuel College and membership is also open to those not experienced in playing pipes or drums. If you would like to learn, the band offers tuition from 5-6pm.

Media Contacts: For further information and details such as hiring the band, please see the band's website or facebook page or contact Emmanuel College.

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